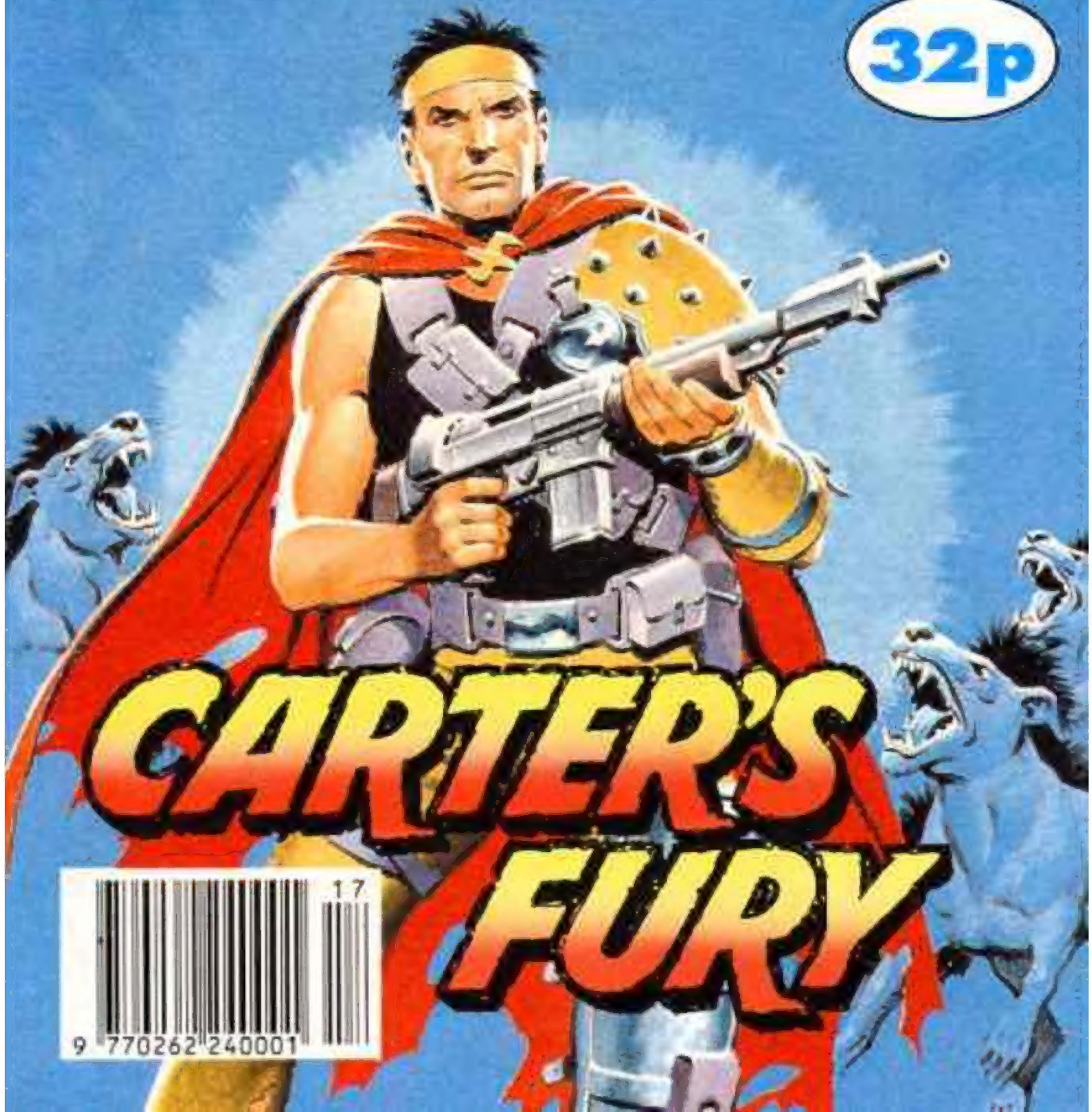


STARBLAZER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES No. 272

32p



CARTER'S FURY



9 770262 240001

STARBLAZER...

THE DEFINITIVE HISTORY



The fifth year of Starblazer produced two dozen varied stories, still set firmly in the depths of space. 1983 was a vintage year for artists... Redondo, Geoff Senior, Cam Kennedy and Tony O'Donnell being the best known.

No.	TITLE	AUTHOR	ARTIST
88	TERROR PLANET	M. STALL	ALCATENA
89	THE TOWERING TURBULENCE	R. ASPDEN	MASIP
90	RETURN OF THE PLANET TAMER	O. P. RICE	ORTIZ
91	ACID SEAS OF KOGA	B. NEED	BOLUDA
92	SPACE ASSAULT SQUAD	W. REED	BOLUDA
93	THE MIDAS MACHINE	ALAN ROGERS	ALAN ROGERS
94	THE MEGALOMENACE	M. STALL	SAICHANN
95	GATE TO YESTERDAY	ALAN ROGERS	ALAN ROGERS
96	THE PROMISED PLANET	G. PARKER	REDONDO
97	THE TRIANGLE OF TERROR	M. CHAPPELL	ORTIZ
98	THE LAST PLANET	ALAN ROGERS	ALAN ROGERS
99	THE FLOATING CITIES OF NEXIOS	C. HARRIS	BENET
100	PIRATES OF THE ETHER SEA	R. ASPDEN	REDONDO
101	THE FORGOTTEN WORLD	R. H. BONBALL	ORTIZ
102	THE SIEGE OF SEABED CITY	M. FURNASS	SENIOR
103	ROBOTS OF DEATH	T. STENT	C. PINO
104	BATTLE FOR BEACON BRAVO	ALAN ROGERS	CICUENDEZ
105	THE CONQUERORS OF EARTH	E. G. COWAN	C. KENNEDY
106	SPACE WARRIOR	J. SPEER	SANCHEZ
107	MAGNOM MARAUDERS	M. CHAPPELL	CASANOVAS
108	STAR FORT ALPHA	ALAN ROGERS	ALAN ROGERS
109	SWORD OF SOLEK	R. ASPDEN	ORTIZ
110	TOMB OF TARA	K. GENTRY	BOLUDA
111	SPACE GHOST	E. G. COWAN	T. O'DONNELL

CARTER'S FURY



NOLAN HAD BEEN CARTER'S JUNIOR PARTNER, UNTIL CARTER HAD RESIGNED. NOW HE WAS TEAMED WITH A SENIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO WAS MORE INTERESTED IN HIS PENSION.



NOLAN COULD HARDLY RESTRAIN HIS ANGER! THEY'D BEEN TRACKING THIS CRIMINAL FOR WEEKS...







HOLAN KNEW CARTER WOULD NEVER HAVE MADE THAT MISTAKE, BUT CARTER WAS PART MACHINE, PART MAN. HIS NEW PARTNER WAS ALL MAN, AND ALL COWARD.



MEANWHILE, IN THE MORTUARY AT
THE MAJOR TRAUMA UNIT OF THE
FEDERAL HOSPITAL COMPLEX...

SUBJECT DECEASED
TWENTY MINUTES AGO.
FULL NEURO AND BIO
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES
FAILED TO RESTORE HER
VITAL SIGNS. SUBJECT HAD
BEEN ON LIFE SUPPORT
FOR ONE YEAR.

WE'D BETTER INFORM
NEXT OF KIN AND THE
FEDERAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT
AGENCY.

AND ON A DESOLATE PLANET AT
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GALAXY.

COME ON...
I'M WAITING!

THEY CAME — BALAVIAN MARSHRATSI
A PARTICULARLY NASTY RODENT WITH
A TASTE FOR HUMAN FLESH ...

HUNGRY,
ARE YOU?



HERE'S TODAY'S
MENU ...
UNFORTUNATELY I CAN
ONLY OFFER YOU
PHOTON BOLTS!



SUDDENLY, FROM SOMEWHERE DEEP INSIDE CARTER'S MIND, CAME A BITTER MEMORY IT WAS ALMOST AS THOUGH A PART OF HIM HAD JUST DIED, AND FOR A BRIEF MOMENT ALL THE OLD PAIN AND ANGUISH FLOODED BACK...

LAURA!

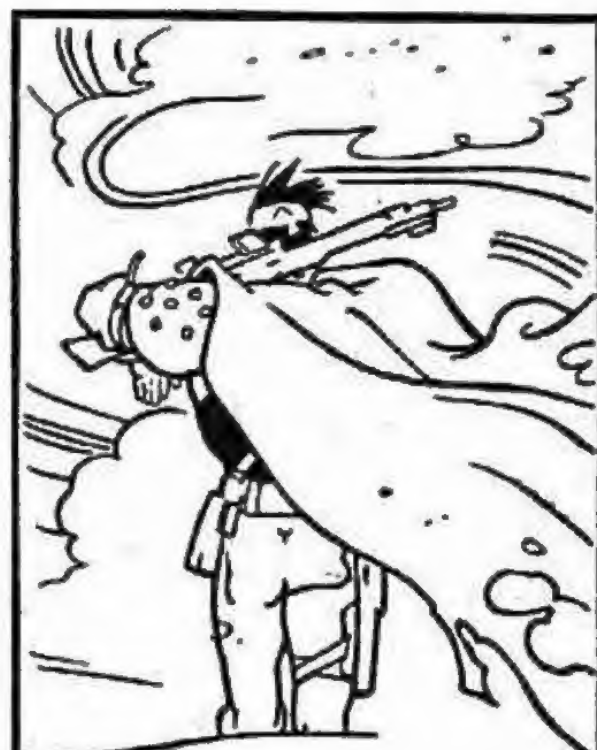
JUST THEN...

NICE WORK, MR CARTER!

YEAH, THIS LOT WILL EARN YOU A BONUS.

BALAVIAN MINING CORP.





A FEW KILOMETRES UP THE ROAD THEY SPOTTED AN ABANDONED LAND VEHICLE.



THERE IT IS, SIR!

IF HE'S GONE INTO THAT JUNGLE WE'D BETTER CALL FOR A BACKUP TEAM.

BY THAT TIME HE COULD BE MILES AWAY! IT'S YOUR DECISION, SIR.



WE'LL GO IN! WE'RE ALREADY ON THE CHIEF'S BLAST LIST — AND IF WE LET KARLO ESCAPE AGAIN WE'LL END UP REPLACING THE ANDROID WHO CLEANS THE PERSONAL AUTOMATED SANITATION UNITS!

NOLAN USED HIS BIO-SENSOR. IT
COULD DETECT A HUMAN BEING
WITHIN A 25 METRE RADIUS.

HE'S NOT FAR AWAY,
SIR! WE MUST HAVE
JUST MISSED HIM.

WE'VE BEEN "JUST
MISSING" THIS CRIMO FOR
THE PAST THREE WEEKS!
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK HE
DOESN'T EVEN EXIST!

AAAAGGGGGHHHH!

WRONG, COP!



NO ONE'S GOING TO TAKE ME
ALIVE! ... HEAR ME? NO ONE!



FAIR ENOUGH!

URRRRRRGGGGHHHH!

NOLAN RETURNED TO BASE.

NICE WORK, NOLAN. SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR PARTNER!

NO, YOU AREN'T... IT SAVES YOU PAYING HIS PENSION.

NOLAN... YOU'RE TO REPORT TO THE DEEP SPACE SHUTTLE BASE RIGHT AWAY. CHIEF LEGAL EXECUTIVE HOLLARD WILL MEET YOU THERE.

HOLLARD WAS NUMBER TWO IN THE FEDERAL POLICE DEPARTMENT — A MAN RARELY SEEN BY LOWLY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, AND LIKE MANY OF HIS COLLEAGUES, NOLAN WAS ALWAYS NERVOUS AND SUSPICIOUS IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS SUPERIORS...

WHERE ARE WE GOING, SIR?

OMEGA-ONE.



THE WORDS SENT A CHILL DOWN NOLAN'S SPINE.

THE PLANET OF THE DEAD!
THAT'S JUST ABOUT THE
LAST PLACE IN THE GALAXY
ANYONE WOULD CHOOSE
TO VISIT!

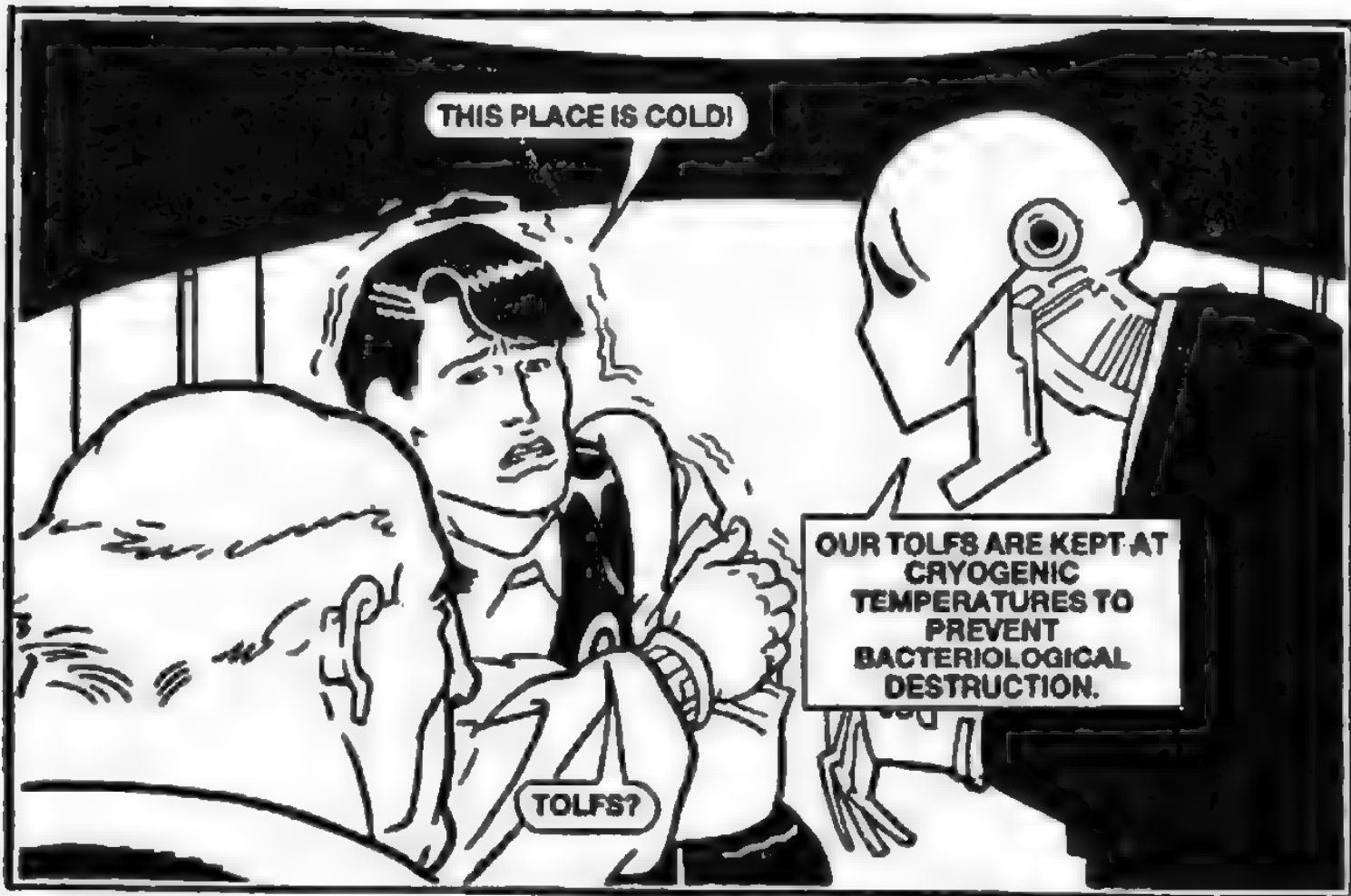


A FEW HOURS LATER NOLAN FOUND
HIMSELF ON THE FROZEN PLANET
CALLED OMEGA-ONE...

GREETINGS AND MY DEEPEST
REGRETS. YOU HAVE COME TO
VISIT A LOVED ONE?

WE'RE HERE ON
POLICE BUSINESS.





IN THE VIEWING ROOM THE ANDROID ACTIVATED THE COMPUTER WHICH SELECTED THE CORRECT CRYO-COFFIN FROM THE MILLIONS STORED DEEP BENEATH THE PLANET'S SURFACE...

TOLF LB-7730, AS REQUESTED.

THANK YOU. YOU MAY LEAVE US NOW.

CC/76. PKU1
LB 7730

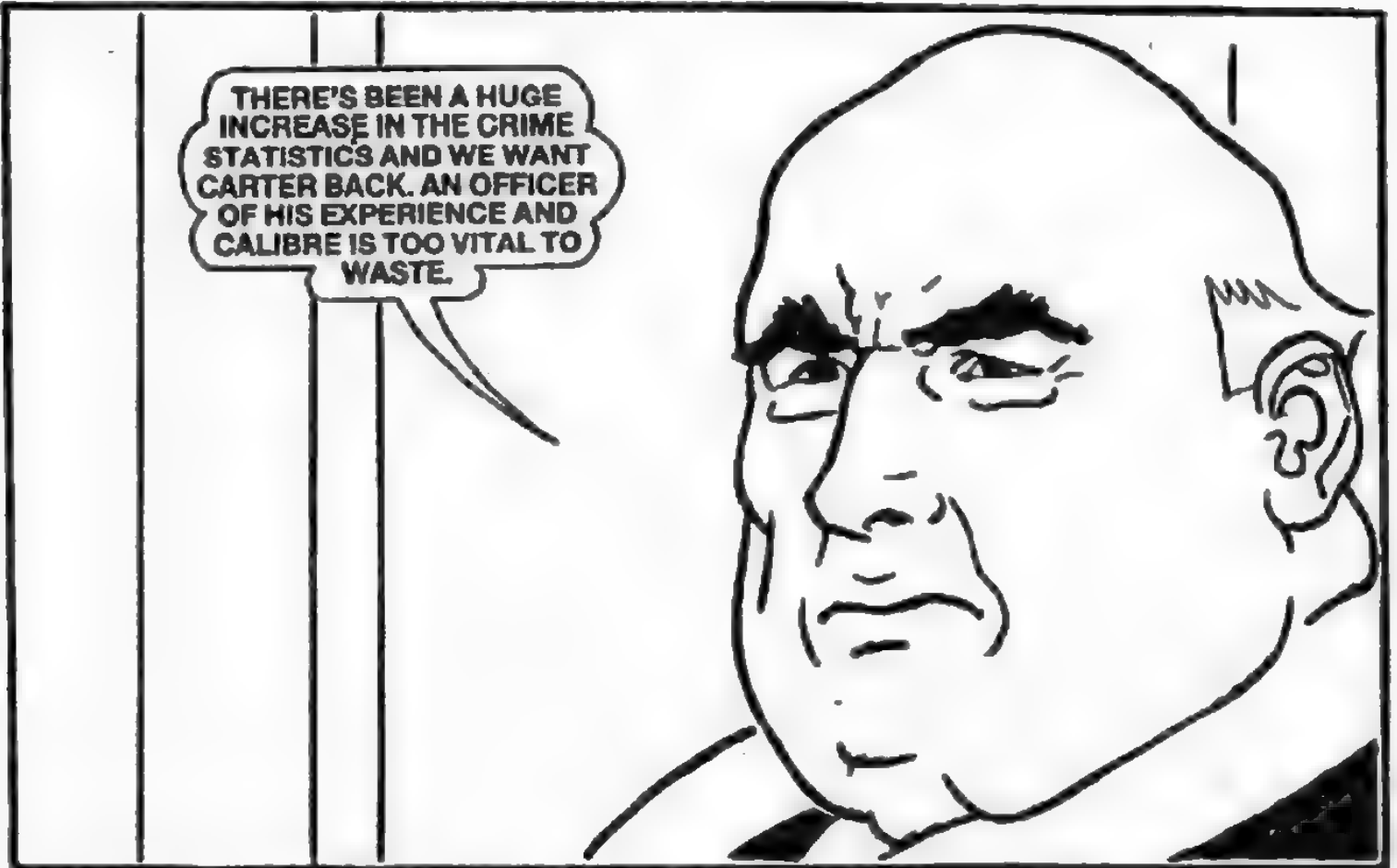
DO NOT TOUCH!
SUB-CRYO TECHNOLOGY



LAURA! BUT THE
LAST TIME I SAW
HER...

THE OPERATION WENT
WELL, BUT THEN HER
TISSUES REJECTED THE
BIONIC
REPLACEMENTS.
APPARENTLY IT STILL
HAPPENS IN SPITE OF
ALL THE LATEST
WONDER DRUGS.

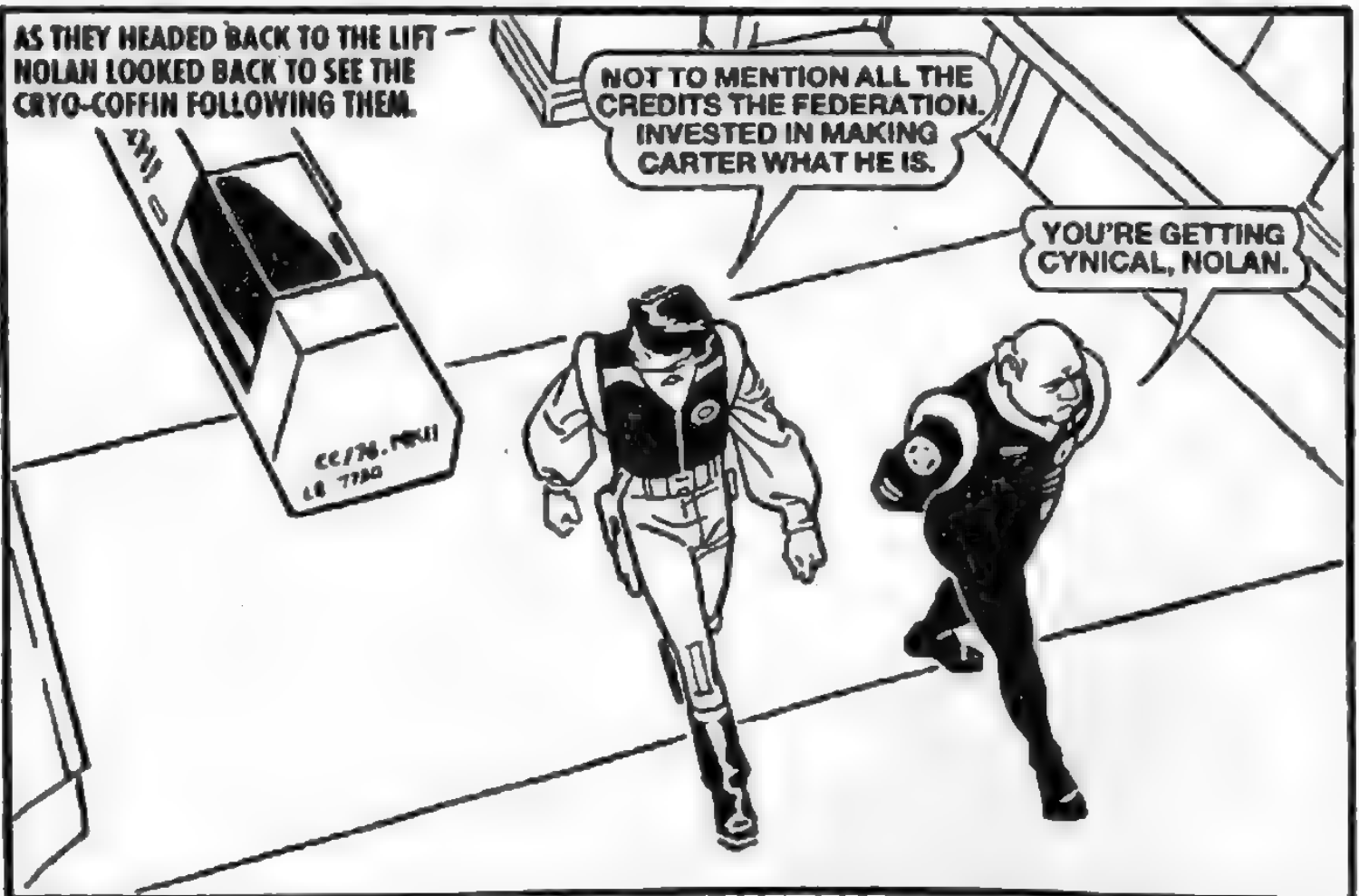
TARC



AS THEY HEADED BACK TO THE LIFT —
NOLAN LOOKED BACK TO SEE THE
CRYO-COFFIN FOLLOWING THEM.

NOT TO MENTION ALL THE
CREDITS THE FEDERATION
INVESTED IN MAKING
CARTER WHAT HE IS.

YOU'RE GETTING
CYNICAL, NOLAN.



LAURA'S BODY WAS LOADED INTO THE SHIP
AND WITHIN MINUTES THEY HAD LEFT THE
PLANET OF THE DEAD.

LAURA IS THE KEY. IF
CARTER KNEW SHE WAS
ALIVE, HE MIGHT COME
BACK.

BUT SHE ISN'T ALIVE, SIR.

HOLLARD HAD STILL ONE MORE
SURPRISE UP HIS SLEEVE...

THIS IS PROFESSOR
DORFMANN, A LEADING
NEUROLOGIST. HE KNOWS
MORE ABOUT THE HUMAN
BRAIN THAN ANYONE IN THE
GALAXY.

THANK YOU, MR HOLLARD.

I'VE RUN THE DETAILS
THROUGH MY COMPUTER
AND IT MAY BE POSSIBLE
TO RESTORE HER TO
LIFE... BUT ONLY IN A
LIMITED WAY. I CAN
RESTORE HER BRAIN
FUNCTIONS, BUT NOT HER
LIMBS. SHE'LL BE A
CRIPPLE FOR THE REST OF
HER LIFE.

A PITY, BUT
IT'LL DO!

SUDDENLY IT ALL CLICKED INTO PLACE. NOLAN FELT SICK TO HIS STOMACH!

A PITY? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! YOU DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT HER . . . YOU'RE JUST USING HER AS BAIT TO BRING CARTER BACK! AND I CAN'T BELIEVE THE FEDERATION WOULD CONDONE ANYTHING AS SICK AND DEPRAVED AS THIS.

HAVE YOU FINISHED, NOLAN?

HOLLARD'S WORDS LEFT NOLAN IN NO DOUBT — LAURA'S FATE WAS SEALED.

YOUR MORAL ARGUMENTS HAVE BEEN NOTED. YOUR ORDERS ARE TO LOCATE CARTER AND TELL HIM WHAT'S HAPPENED. WE'LL BE DOCKING AT SPACE STATION REGUS IN TEN MINUTES AND YOU'LL FIND A CLASS 'A' PATROL SHIP WAITING FOR YOU. USE ANY METHODS YOU SEE FIT TO COMPLETE YOUR MISSION.

SO NOLAN'S LONG SEARCH BEGAN ...

I HAVEN'T SEEN
CARTER SINCE THE
RIOTS HERE TWO
YEARS AGO.

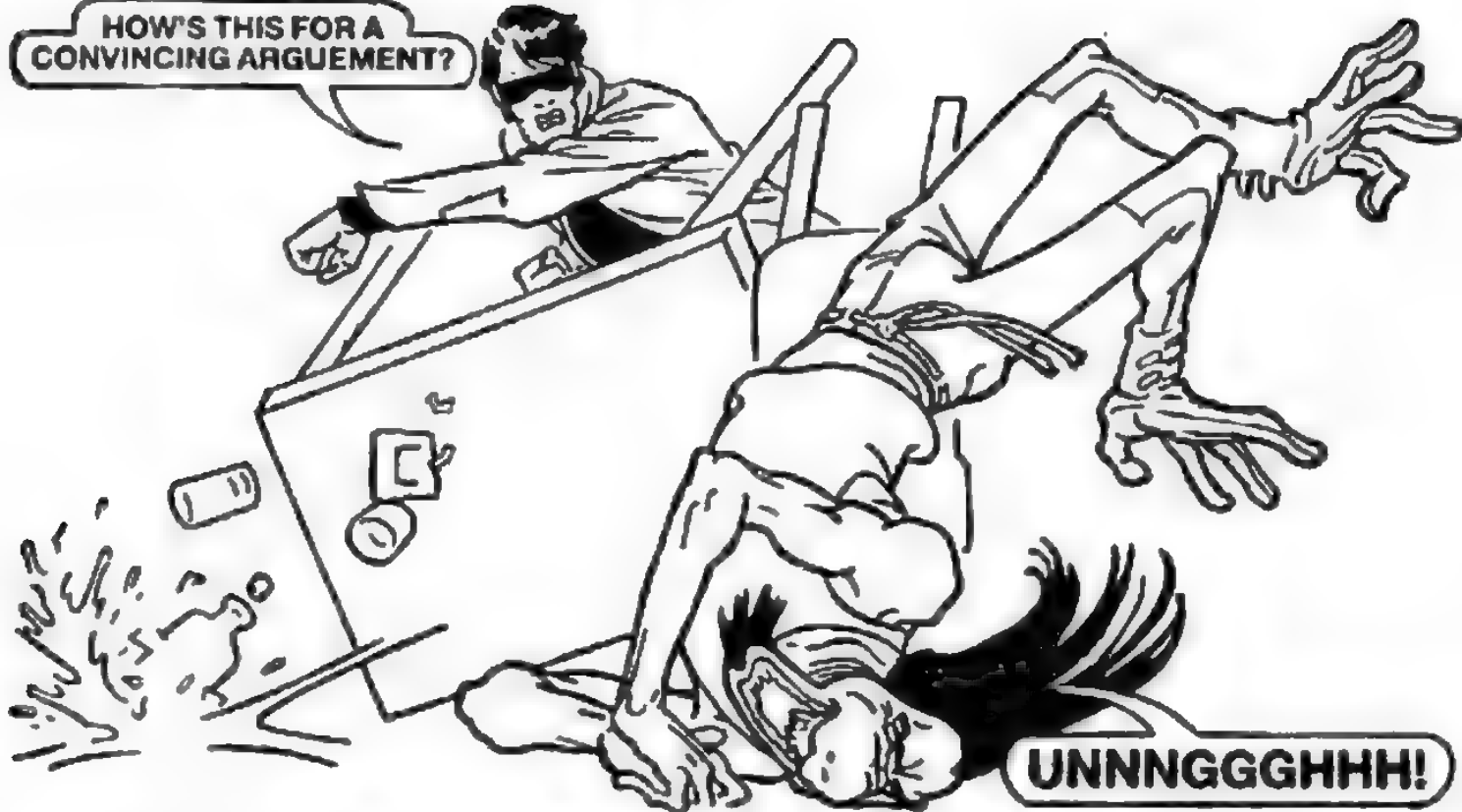
IF YOU HEAR ANYTHING
CONTACT ME ON THE
INTER-GALACTIC
VIDPHONE.

THEN, IN A SEEDY BAR ON A RUN
DOWN SPACE STATION IN THE
FOURTH NEBULAR ARM ...

IF I KNEW WHERE THAT
MANDROID WAS I
CERTAINLY WOULDN'T
TELL YOU!

PERHAPS I CAN
PERSUADE YOU.

HOW'S THIS FOR A
CONVINCING ARGUMENT?

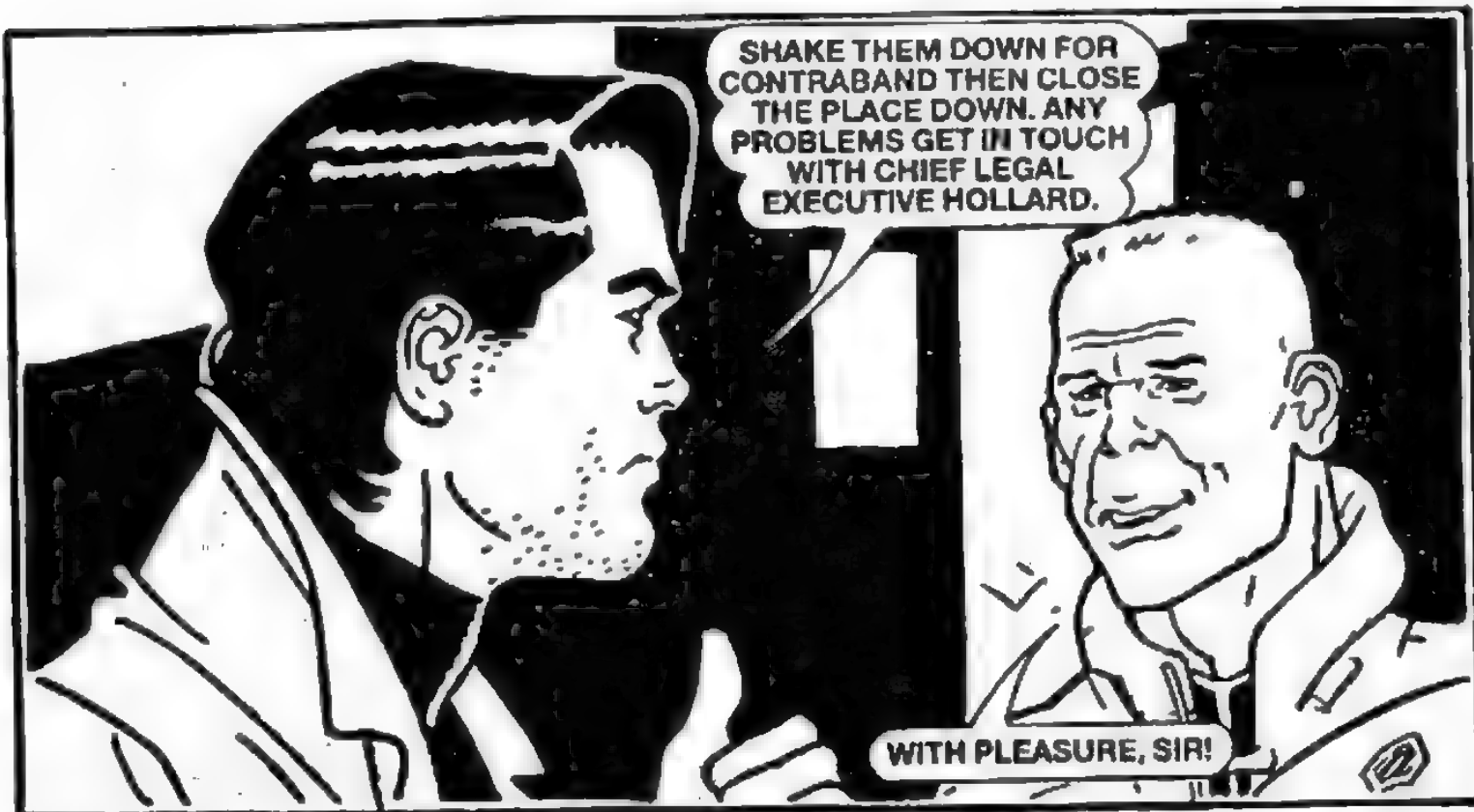


UNNNGGGHHH!

I WANT SOME ANSWERS
AND I WANT THEM NOW...
OR I'LL LET MY RIOT SQUAD
LOOSE AND TURN THIS
SPACE STATION INTO AN
ORBITING JUNK YARD!

I HEARD A RUMOUR
CARTER WAS SEEN IN
THE TRADING POST ON
NUNKI-DELTA.





MEANWHILE, IN AN OPERATING ROOM...

ARE YOU SURE THIS WILL WORK, PROFESSOR?



I WOULD HARDLY WASTE MY TALENTS ON THIS PATIENT UNLESS I THOUGHT IT WOULD WORK, MR HOLLARD. NOW KINDLY LEAVE ME ALONE.

AT THE TRADING POST...

THAT'S HIM! I NEVER
FORGET A FACE...
ESPECIALLY NOT ONE LIKE
THAT.

HE DIDN'T HAPPEN TO
MENTION WHERE HE
WAS HEADED?

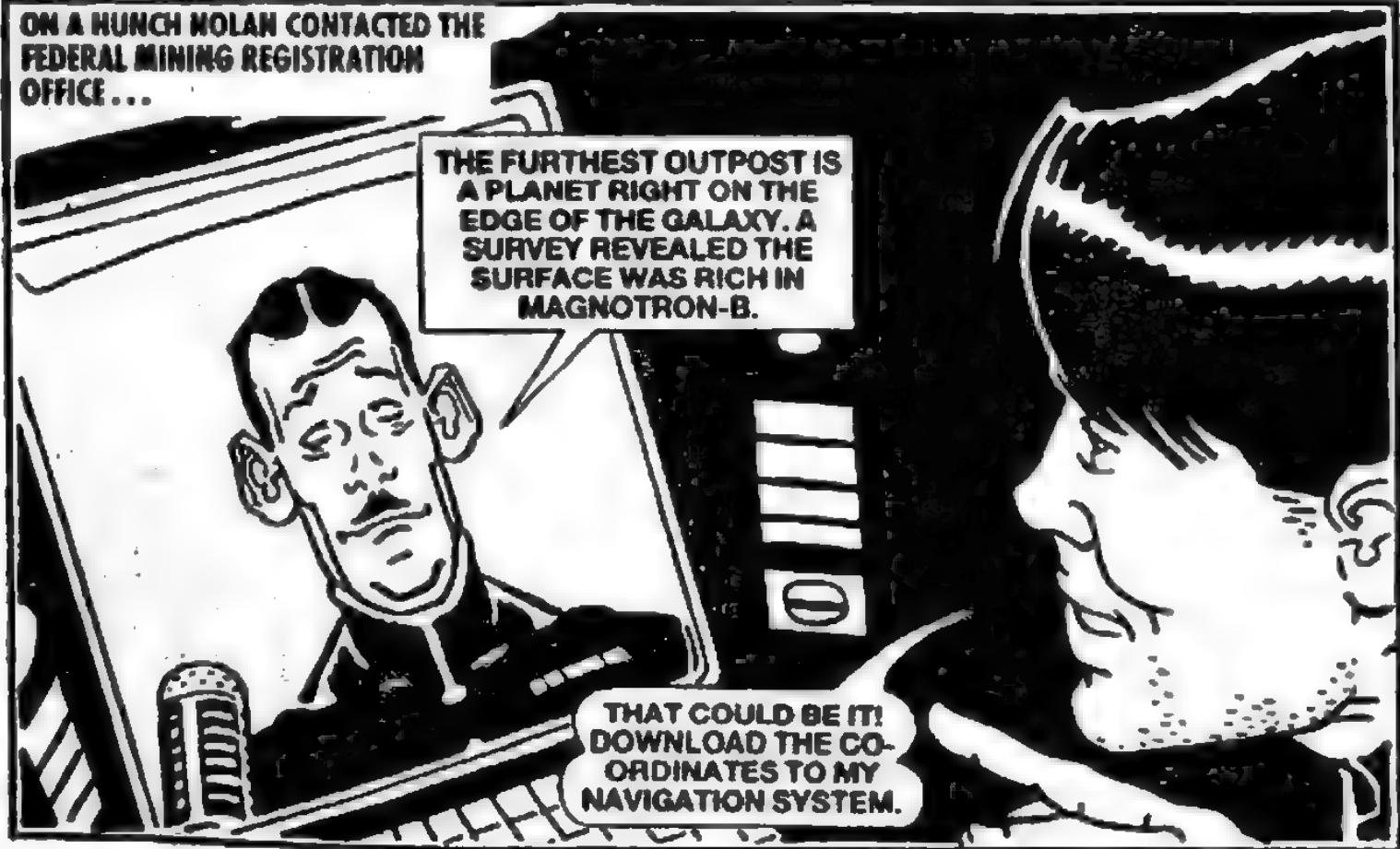


BACK ON HIS SHIP NOLAN DECIDED TO GO THROUGH THE COMPUTER RECORDS OF ALL THE CASES CARTER HAD WORKED ON. IT WAS A LONG SHOT, BUT HE WAS WILLING TO TRY ANYTHING.



ON A HUNCH NOLAN CONTACTED THE FEDERAL MINING REGISTRATION OFFICE ...

THE FURTHEST OUTPOST IS A PLANET RIGHT ON THE EDGE OF THE GALAXY. A SURVEY REVEALED THE SURFACE WAS RICH IN MAGNOTRON-B.



MINING CORPORATIONS USE A LOT OF ANDROIDS FOR THE DIRTY AND DANGEROUS WORK ... AND CARTER'S ALWAYS PREFERRED THE COMPANY OF ANDROIDS.



AT THAT MOMENT ...

LAURA?



IT WAS A DREAM... JUST A DREAM. THAT'S WHY I ENVY THE ANDROIDS SO. THEY FEEL NO PAIN OR LONELINESS — AND THEY HAVE NO NEED TO SLEEP.



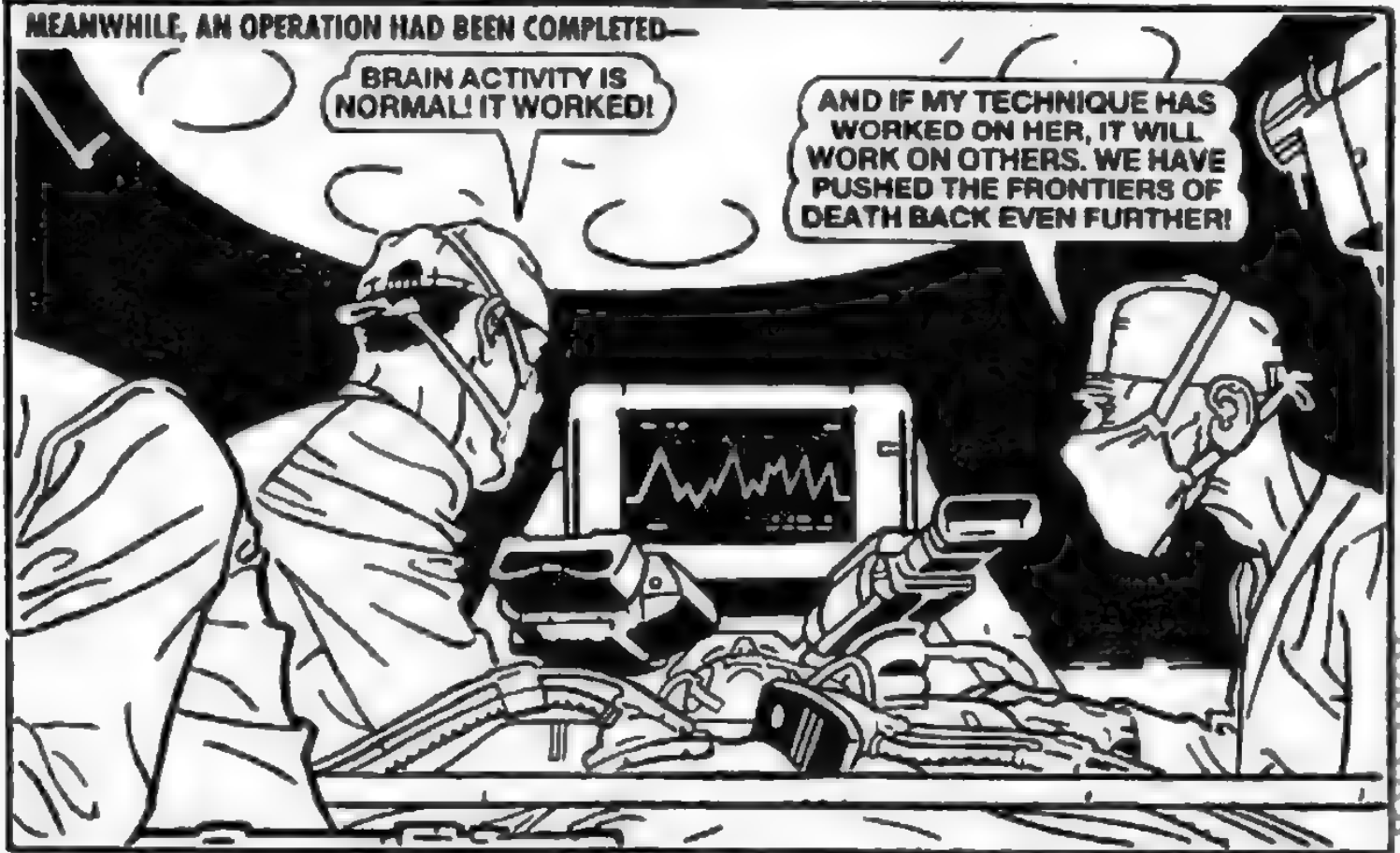
I HAVE HAD BUT TWO LOVES IN MY LIFE. ONE WAS MY WORK AND THE OTHER... THE OTHER WAS TAKEN FROM ME. NOW THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO LIVE FOR.



MEANWHILE, AN OPERATION HAD BEEN COMPLETED—

BRAIN ACTIVITY IS
NORMAL! IT WORKED!

AND IF MY TECHNIQUE HAS
WORKED ON HER, IT WILL
WORK ON OTHERS. WE HAVE
PUSHED THE FRONTIERS OF
DEATH BACK EVEN FURTHER!



KEEP HER SEDATED. THE
SHOCK OF RETURNING TO
LIFE WILL BE A TRAUMATIC
ONE AND WE MUST LET HER
ADJUST TO IT GRADUALLY.

YOU'D BETTER INFORM
CHIEF LEGAL
EXECUTIVE HOLLARD,
PROFESSOR.





THAT'S PHASE ONE
COMPLETED, SIR.

GOOD! NOW LET'S JUST
HOPE NOLAN IS AS LUCKY
LOCATING OUR MANDROID
FRIEND.

CARTER HAD SPENT A SLEEPLESS NIGHT AND
WHEN HE FINALLY DOZED OFF IT WAS
DAYTIME. THEN, HIS WRIST PHONE BUZZED.

THERE'S A BIG
CONCENTRATION OF
MARSHRATS HEADING
FOR SECTOR 18!

I'LL BE
RIGHT THERE.

CARTER HAD ALWAYS WORN HIS BODY ARMOUR — IT WAS STANDARD PROCEDURE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. BUT TODAY HE DECIDED TO LEAVE IT BEHIND.

FROM LAWMAN TO HIRED KILLER. ONCE I EARNED COMMENDATIONS ... NOW I EARN BLOOD MONEY.

BUT FOR THE MARSHRAT THERE IS NO LAW, ONLY SWIFT TERMINATION WITHOUT MERCY. THEY HAVE COMMITTED NO CRIME, YET I HUNT THEM DOWN. WHY?

BECAUSE HUNTING AND KILLING ARE THE ONLY GIFTS I CAN OFFER HUMANITY.

AT SECTOR 18 ...

THE MARSHRATS HAVE
CHEWED RIGHT THROUGH
THE MAIN POWER CABLE.

WHERE'S CARTER?



YOU CALLED!

IT'S CARTER!



CARTER ADVANCED ON A SEETHING
MASS OF MARSHRATS ...

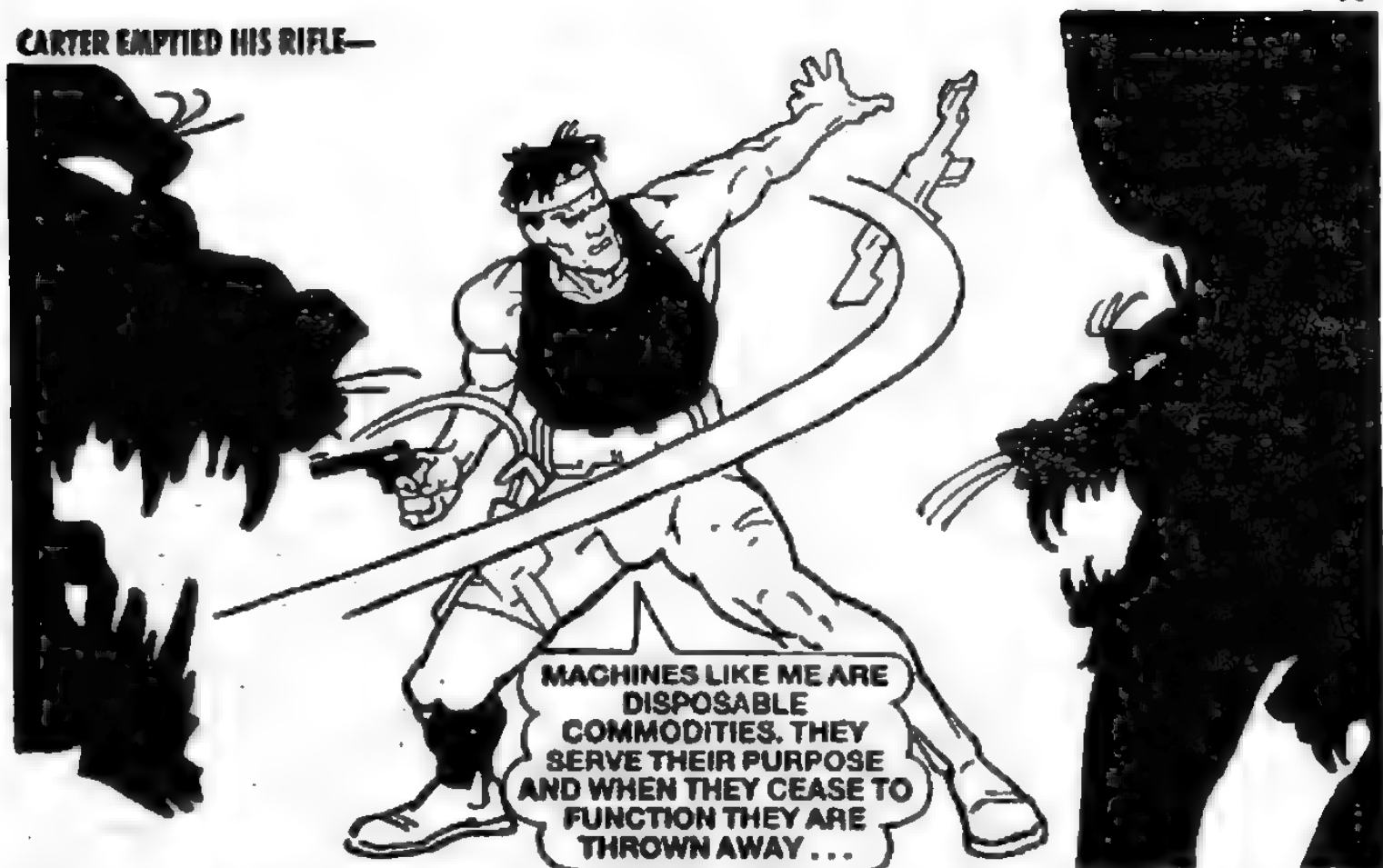
I WAS ONCE THE MANDROID
COP ... PART MACHINE,
PART HUMAN. BUT I LOST
MY HUMANITY WHEN
LAURA DIED. NOW ONLY
THE UNFEELING MACHINE
REMAINS.



I WAS HATED AND FEARED BY
ALL ... CARTER THE UNMOVABLE,
THE MANHUNTER ... THE PERFECT
POLICE OFFICER. THEY ONLY SAW
MY GUN AND THE AUTHORITY
BEHIND IT — THEY FAILED TO SEE
THE MAN. SO WHO CARES IF I LIVE
OR DIE?



CARTER EMPTIED HIS RIFLE—



NOW THEY HAD CARTER IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY FINISHED THEIR GRISLY WORK. WITH RAZOR SHARP TEETH AS STRONG AS STEEL, THEY COULD DEVOUR A MAN IN MINUTES...

AAAAGGGGGHHHH!



JUST THEN...

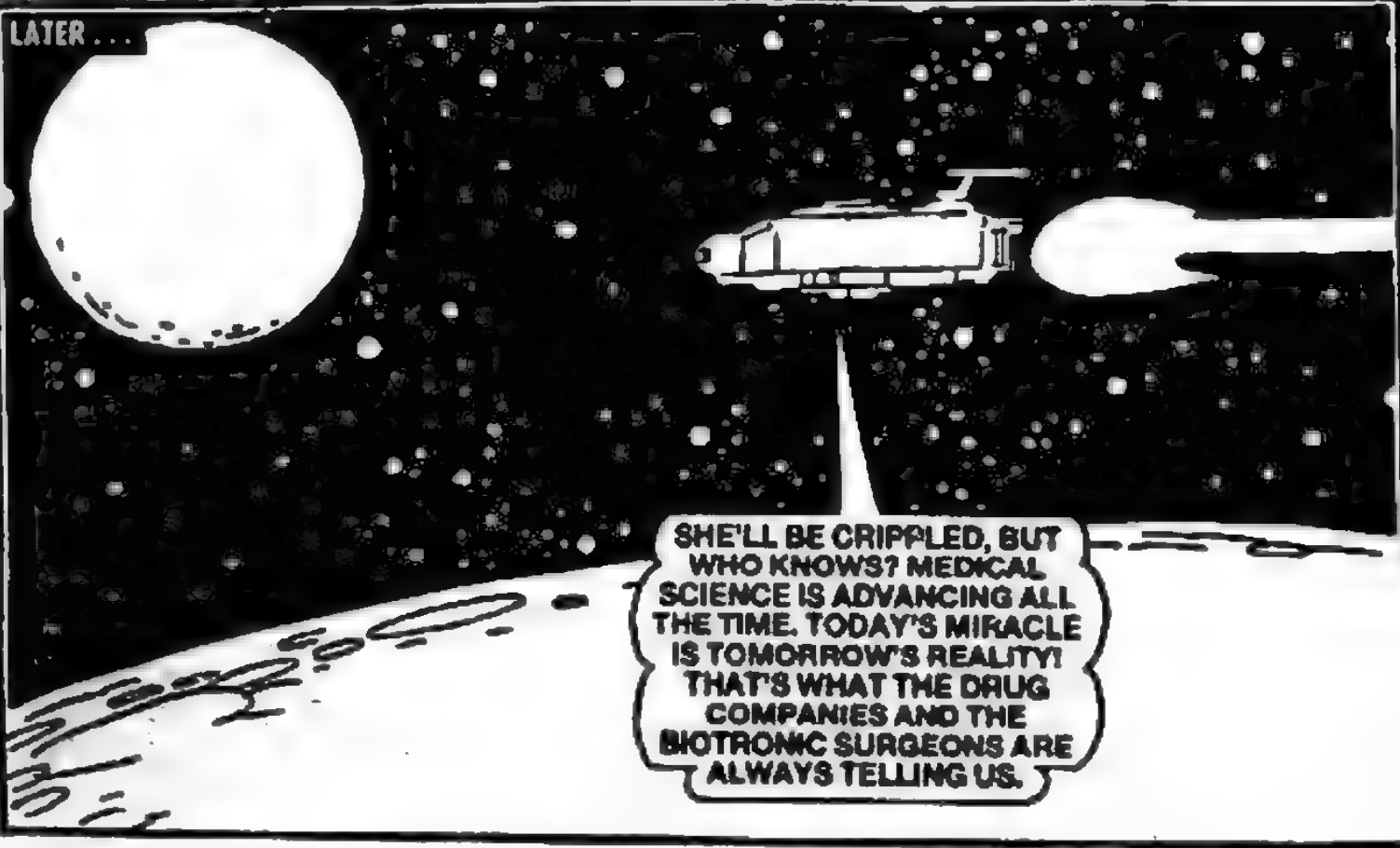
WHAT THE...!!?!!








LATER...



SHE'LL BE CRIPPLED, BUT WHO KNOWS? MEDICAL SCIENCE IS ADVANCING ALL THE TIME. TODAY'S MIRACLE IS TOMORROW'S REALITY! THAT'S WHAT THE DRUG COMPANIES AND THE BIOTRONIC SURGEONS ARE ALWAYS TELLING US.



HERE'S YOUR INVESTIGATOR'S IDENTITY HOLOTAG. CHIEF LEGAL EXECUTIVE HOLLARD TOLD ME TO GIVE YOU THIS. ARE YOU OKAY?

I'M FINE, NOLAN — JUST FINE.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT
PSYCHIATRIST HAD PAID A VISIT TO
HOLLARD ...

YOUR MAN NOLAN
REPORTED THAT CARTER
TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE.

NONSENSE! SUICIDE IS FOR
THE MENTALLY UNSTABLE.
WHEN THEY REBUILT
CARTER'S BRAIN THEY
MADE HIM SANER THAN
ANY OF US.

NORMALLY I WOULD AGREE
WITH YOU! BUT THEN NO ONE
WOULD HAVE BELIEVED
CARTER WOULD FALL IN LOVE
WITH THAT WOMAN.

WHEN THEY ARRIVED BACK TO
FEDERAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS
THE BUILDING WAS PACKED
WITH CARTER'S FELLOW
OFFICERS...

THE KILLER'S BACK!



THAT'S ALL, GENTLEMEN!
CARTER HAS TO HAVE A
MEDICAL AND THEN A FEW
DAYS REST.



LATER.

HIS SHOOTING WAS AS SHARP AS EVER, YOU SAY.

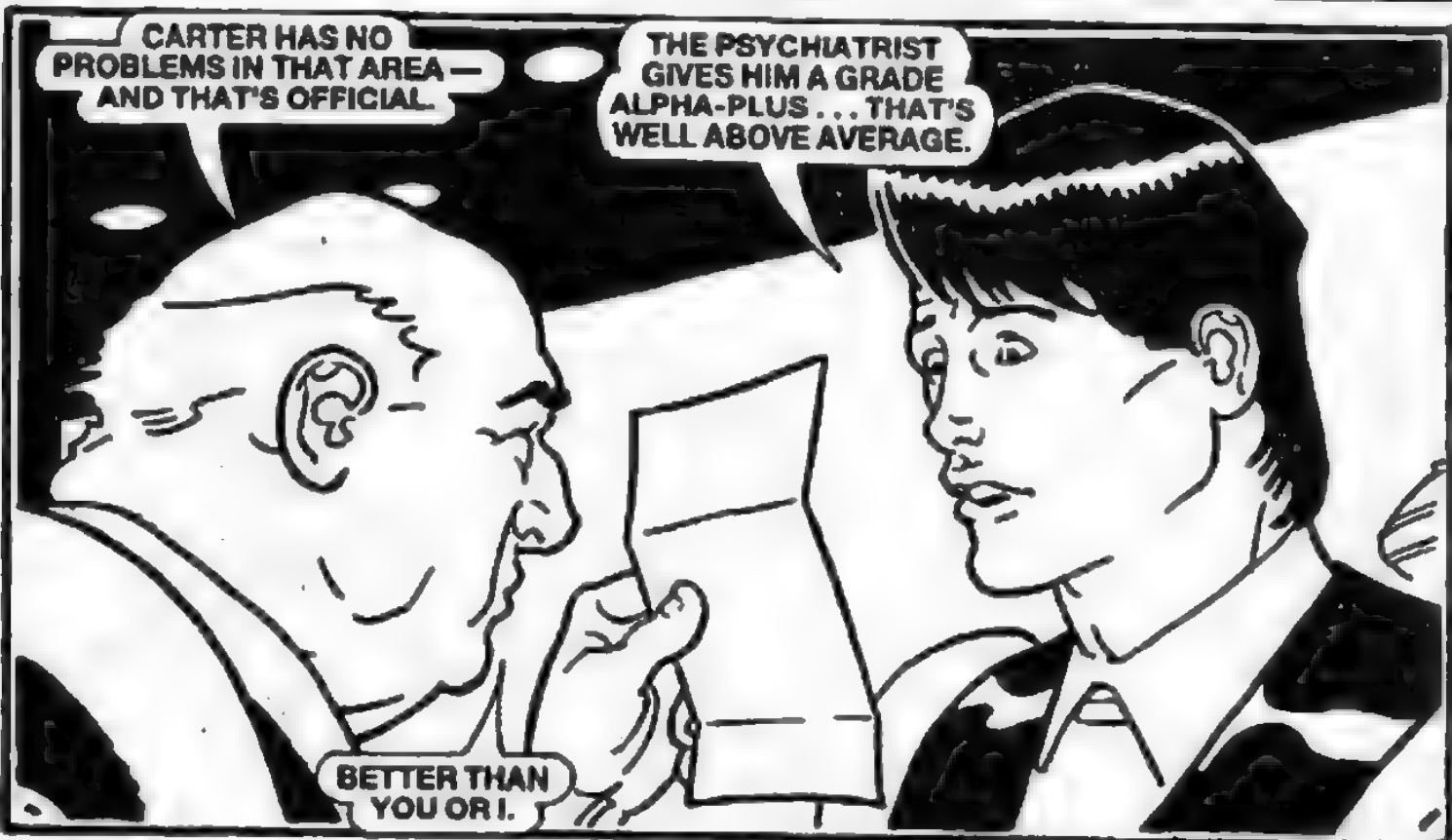
YES, SIR. AT LEAST THE MINERS THOUGHT SO, THAT'S WHY THEY EMPLOYED HIM. THERE'S JUST HIS MENTAL STATE ...



CARTER HAS NO PROBLEMS IN THAT AREA — AND THAT'S OFFICIAL.

THE PSYCHIATRIST GIVES HIM A GRADE ALPHA-PLUS ... THAT'S WELL ABOVE AVERAGE.

BETTER THAN YOU OR I.



NOLAN HAD NO DESIRE TO ARGUE WITH THE EXPERTS, BUT THERE WAS STILL A SMALL NAGGING DOUBT DEEP IN THE BACK OF HIS MIND.

IF EVERYONE WAS AS SANE AS CARTER THERE'D BE NO CRIME... AND WE'D BE OUT OF A JOB. PRETTY IRONIC, EH?

CARTER TRIED TO KILL HIMSELF... OR DID I ONLY IMAGINE IT?

PSYCHO
ASSESSMENT
UNIT B3

TWO DAYS LATER...

A GALACTIC MOTORS "EXEC-CRUISER"! THIS MODEL'S WORTH AT LEAST 35,000 CREDITS!

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN WHILE I DISENGAGE THE ALARM SYSTEM.



HURRY UP!

ALMOST FINISHED! JUST
ONE MORE CIRCUIT TO ...



BUT

POLICE! YOU'RE
UNDER ARREST.

HUH?



THE SECOND CRIMO REACTED WITH AMAZING SPEED!

UNDER FEDERAL LAW 99/7A
YOU ARE OBLIGED TO MAKE A
STATEMENT AND TAKE A
NEURO-LIE DETECTOR TEST.
YOU ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO
FREE LEGAL
REPRESENTATION.

GET LOST!



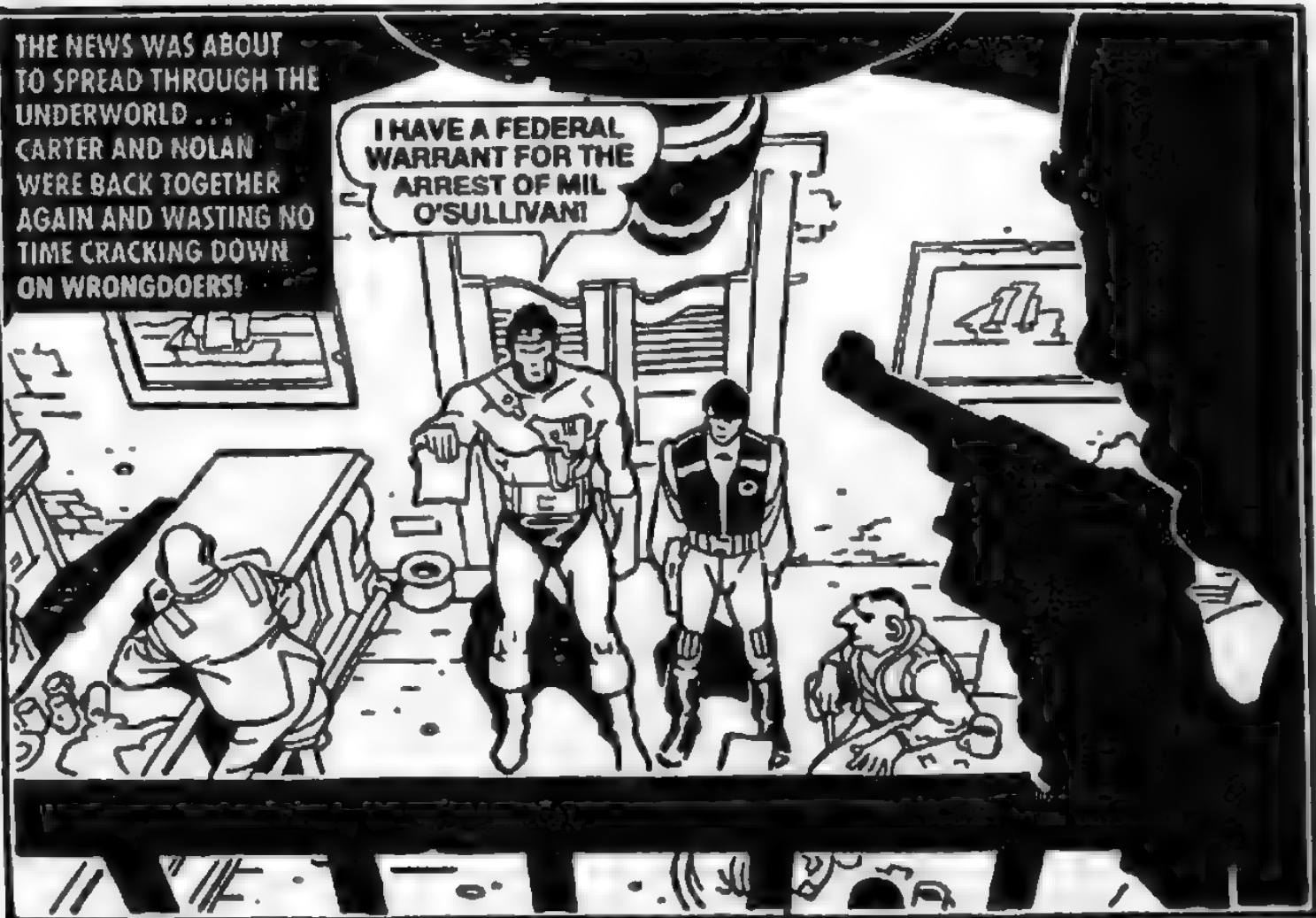
HE DIDN'T
GET VERY FAR.

GOING SOMEWHERE,
CRIMO?



THE NEWS WAS ABOUT
TO SPREAD THROUGH THE
UNDERWORLD ...
CARTER AND NOLAN
WERE BACK TOGETHER
AGAIN AND WASTING NO
TIME CRACKING DOWN
ON WRONGDOERS!

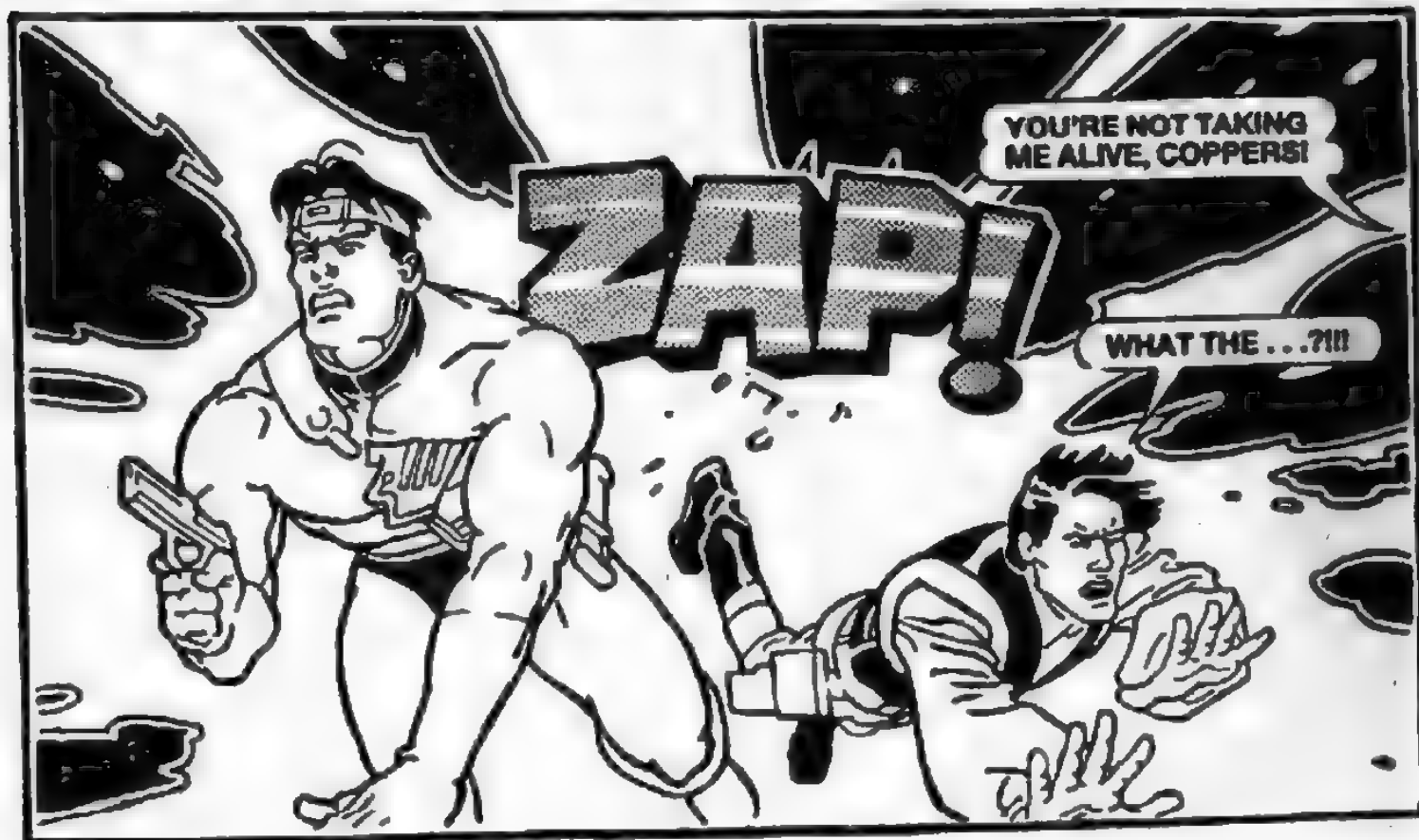
I HAVE A FEDERAL
WARRANT FOR THE
ARREST OF MIL
O'SULLIVAN!



YOU'RE NOT TAKING
ME ALIVE, COPPERS!

ZAP!

WHAT THE ... ?!!!

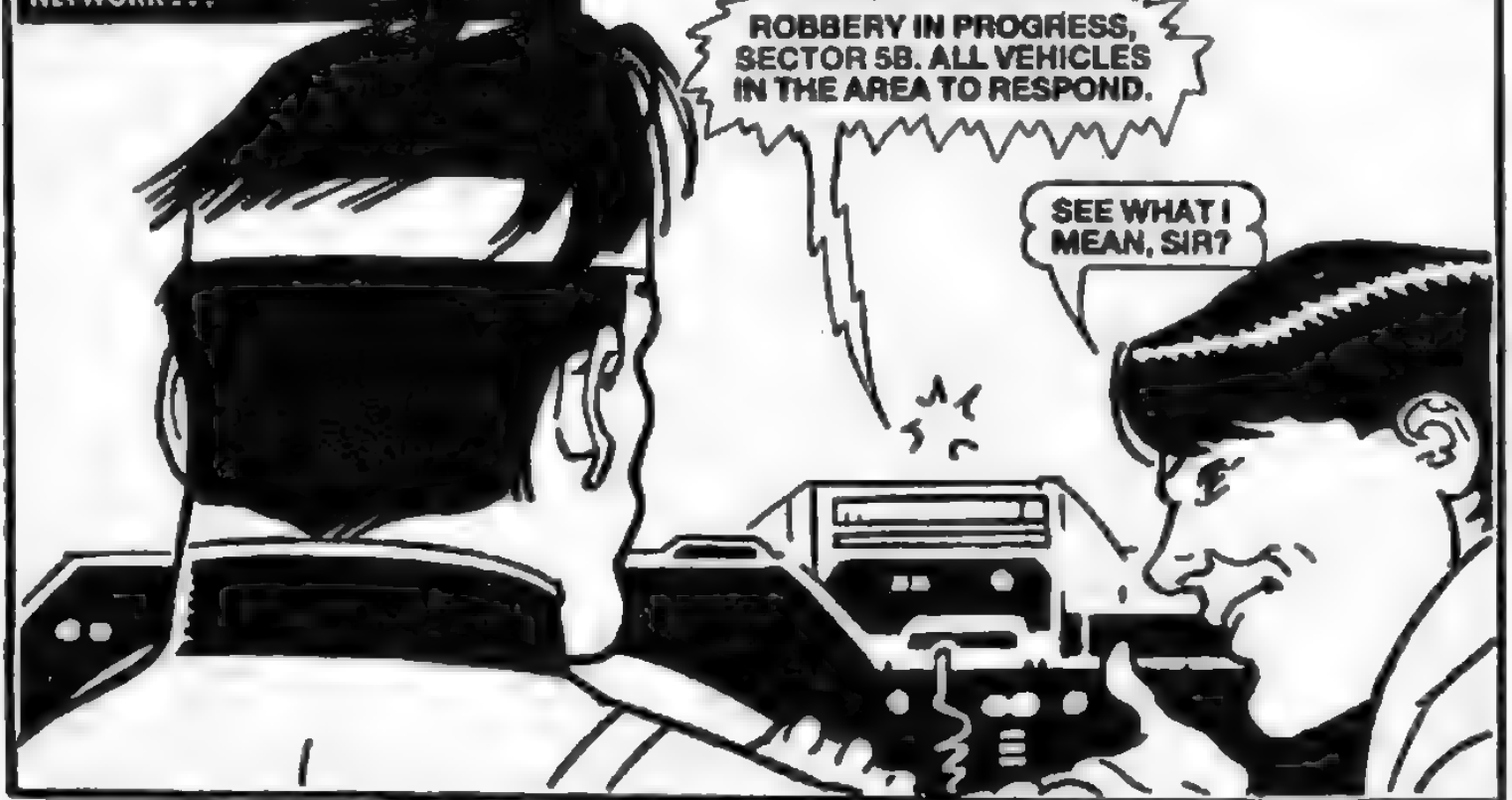




NOLAN HAD NO SOONER SPOKEN THAN THE VOICE OF THE ANDROID OPERATOR CAME OVER THE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK . . .

ROBBERY IN PROGRESS, SECTOR 5B. ALL VEHICLES IN THE AREA TO RESPOND.

SEE WHAT I MEAN, SIR?



FEDERAL BANK

613

THEY'RE HEADING FOR THE SPACEPORT!

WE'RE IN PURSUIT! A MED-UNIT WILL BE WITH YOU SHORTLY!



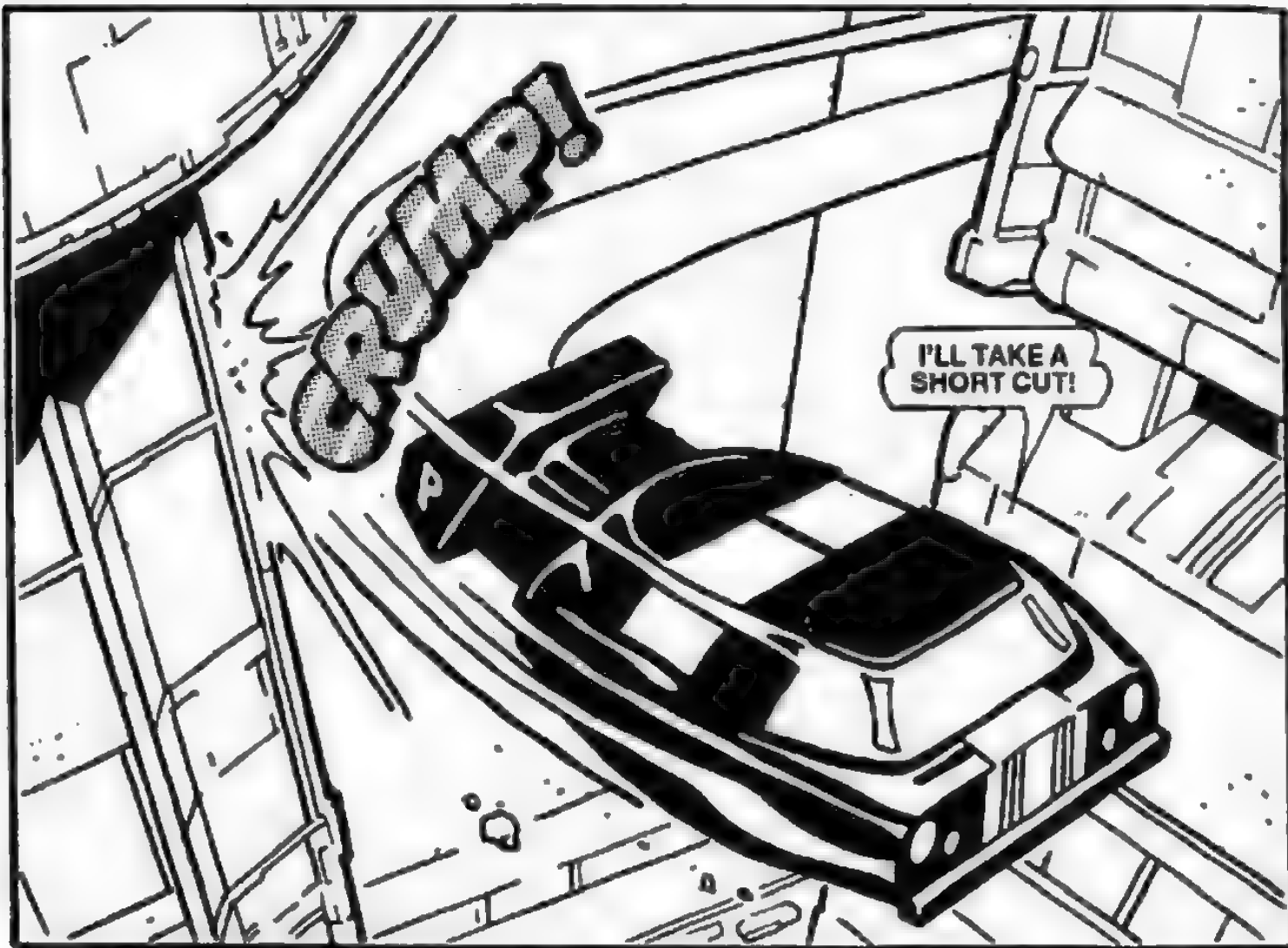
THE COMPUTER WAS TRACKING THE ROBBERS, LAND VEHICLE AS CARTER ENGAGED THE TURBO-DRIVE AND PUSHED THE SPEED UP TO 340 MPH!

SUSPECTS ARE USING ROUTE 894.

WE MAY BE ABLE TO CUT THEM OFF AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION.

TAKE IT EASY, SIR! YOU'RE EXCEEDING THE SPEED REGULATIONS FOR PURSUING LAND VEHICLES!


WHEN TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ARE LIGHT THE REGULATIONS ALSO ALLOW AN OFFICER TO USE HIS OWN JUDGEMENT ... WHICH IS PRECISELY WHAT I'M DOING NOW.



CARTER DIDN'T REDUCE SPEED
AS HE WENT THROUGH THE
NARROW WINDING ALLEY


LOOK OUT!

SOMETHING WRONG,
MR NOLAN?



BACK THERE ON THAT
PLANET YOU WANTED TO KILL
YOURSELF... AND IT LOOKS
TO ME LIKE YOU'RE TRYING
TO DO IT AGAIN!

SO YOU KNOW?



I TAKE IT YOU REPORTED
THIS TO HOLLARD.

YES, BUT HE DIDN'T BELIEVE
ME... NEITHER DID THE
PSYCHIATRIST. HE GAVE YOU A
CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH.

JUST THEN ...

THERE THEY ARE!



FACED WITH A POLICE LAND VEHICLE
RUSHING TOWARDS THEM AT OVER 300
MPH, THE ROBBERS HAD NO CHOICE BUT
TO TAKE EVASIVE ACTION ... WITH
DISASTROUS RESULTS!

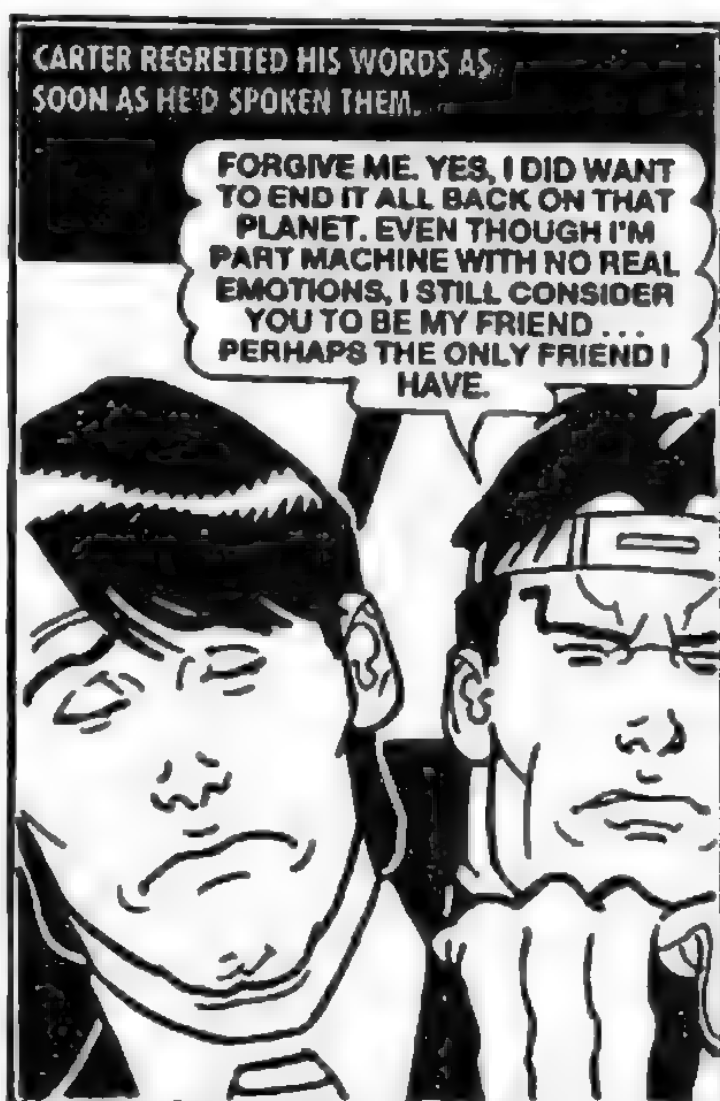
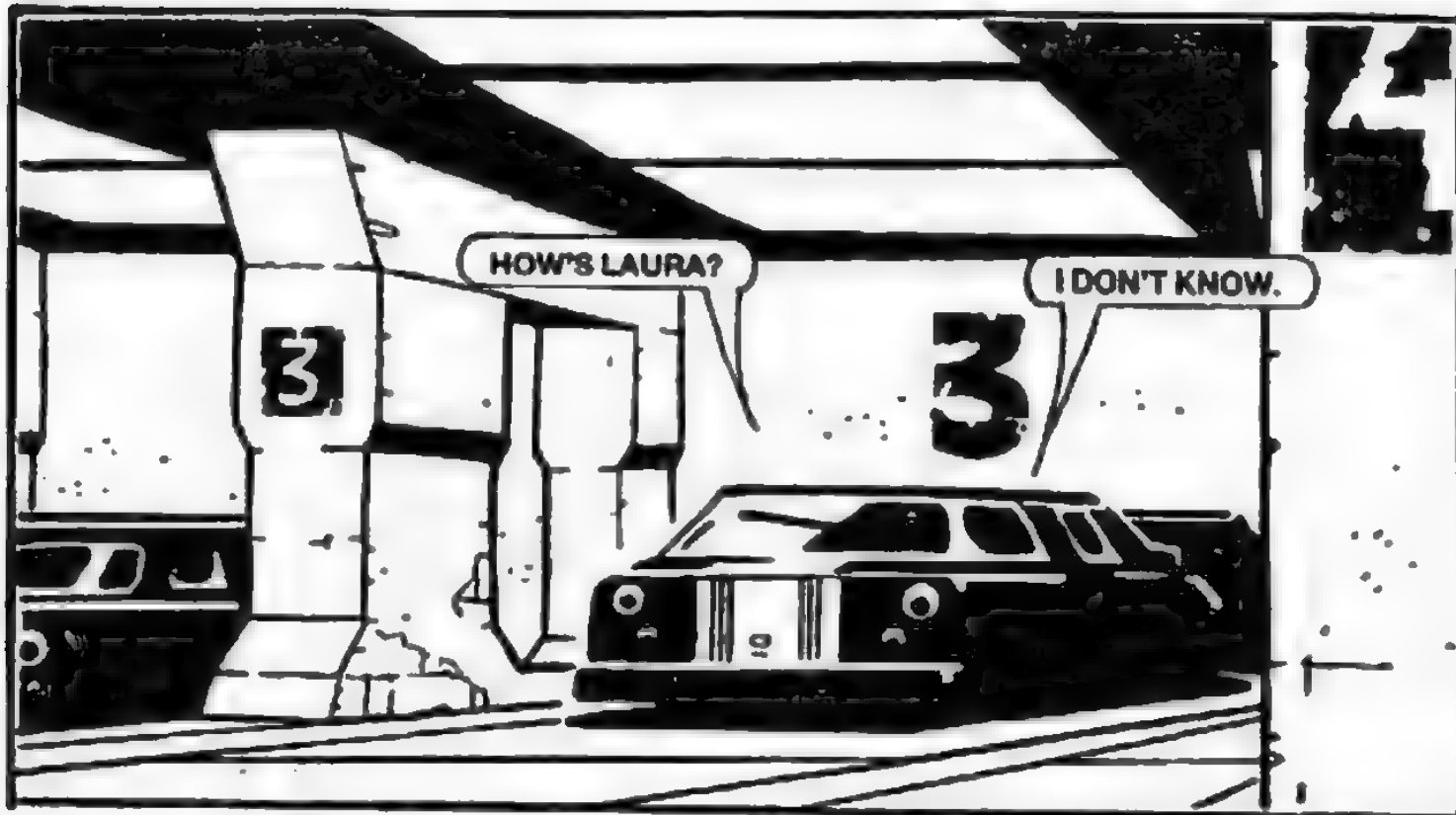
AAAAGGGGGHHHH!



ATTENTION ALL UNITS! THE
ROBBERS HAVE BEEN
APPREHENDED!

KRUMP!

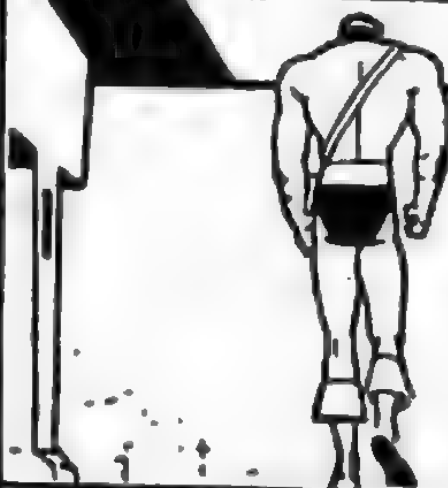




NOLAN WAS STUNNED. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME CARTER HAD EVER VOICED HIS FEELINGS ABOUT THEIR RELATIONSHIP.

YOU SAVED MY LIFE AND FOR THAT I THANK YOU. GOODBYE UNTIL TOMORROW, MR NOLAN.

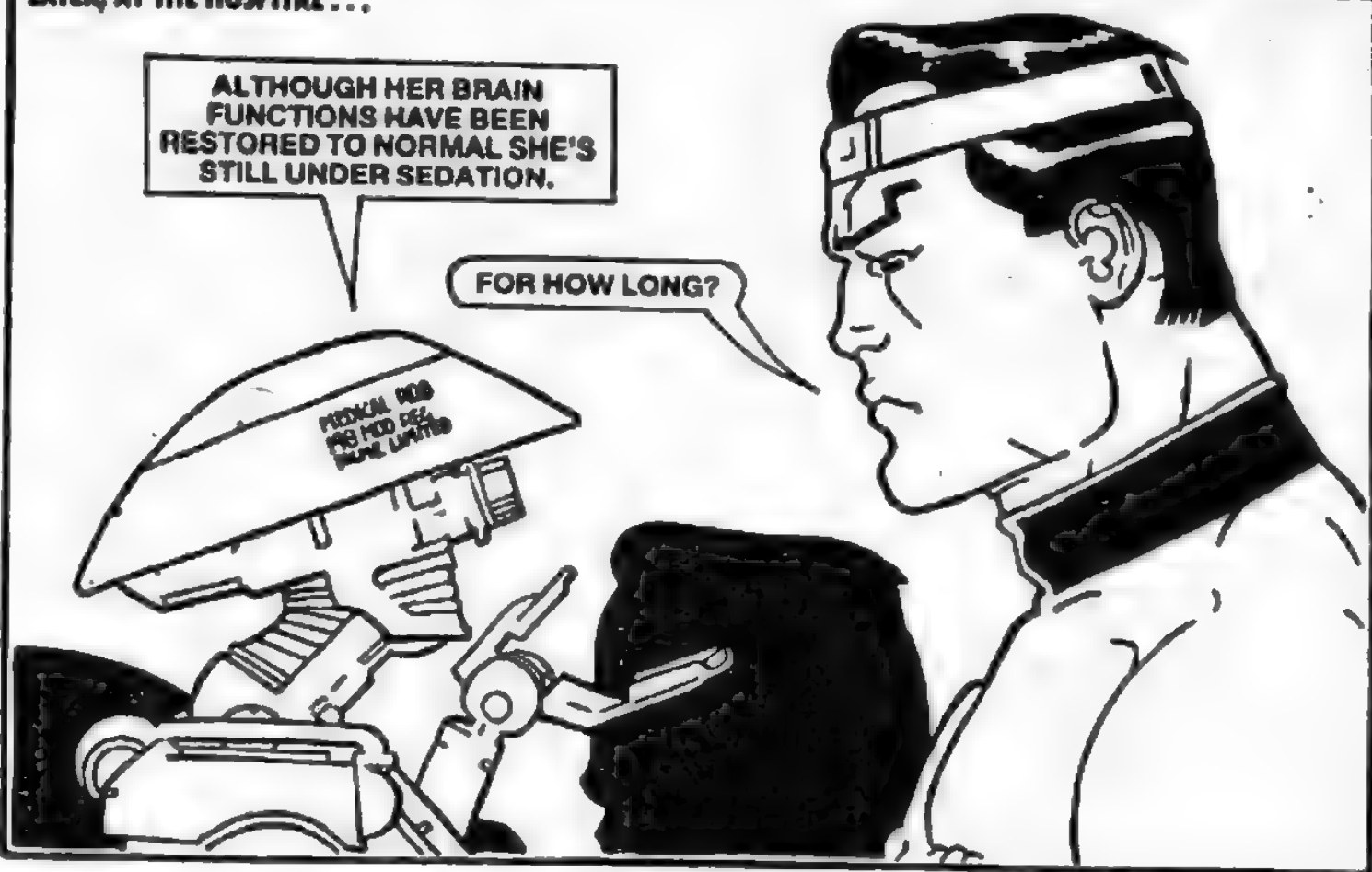
TAKE CARE, SIR.

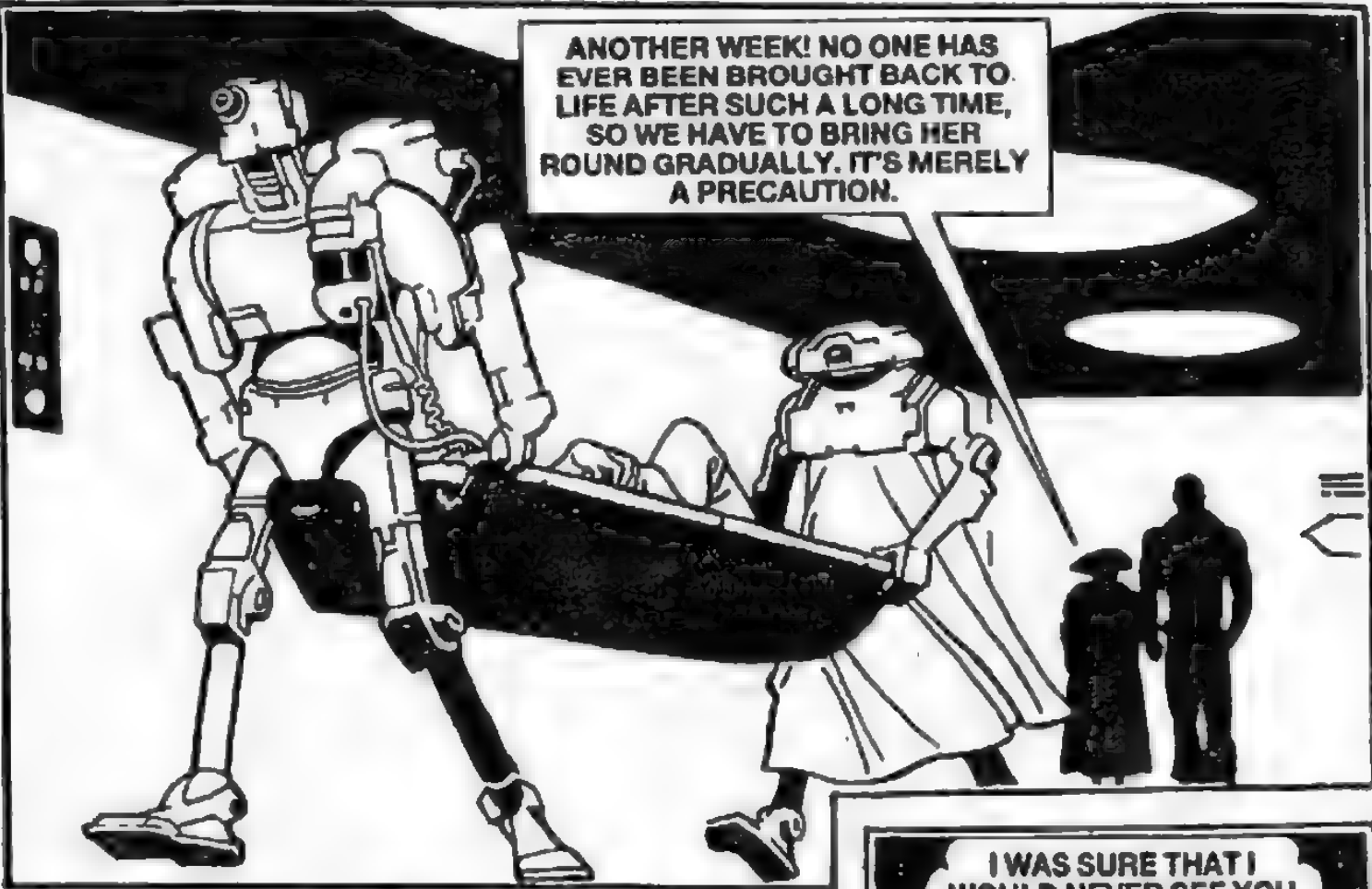


LATER, AT THE HOSPITAL...

ALTHOUGH HER BRAIN FUNCTIONS HAVE BEEN RESTORED TO NORMAL SHE'S STILL UNDER SEDATION.

FOR HOW LONG?






ANOTHER WEEK! NO ONE HAS EVER BEEN BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE AFTER SUCH A LONG TIME, SO WE HAVE TO BRING HER ROUND GRADUALLY. IT'S MERELY A PRECAUTION.



YOU MAY STAY WITH HER FOR A WHILE.

THANK YOU!



I WAS SURE THAT I WOULD NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN. THERE WAS SO MUCH I WANTED TO TELL YOU ...

CARTER'S THOUGHTS DRIFTED
BACK TO A FAR HAPPIER TIME.

I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD
HAVE TAKEN A TAXI!

WHO CARES? DON'T TELL ME A
BRAVE POLICE OFFICER LIKE
YOU IS SCARED OF A LITTLE
RAIN?



LET'S CELEBRATE
BEING ALIVE! AND FOR
AS LONG AS I LIVE I'LL
LOVE YOU . . . NEVER
FORGET THAT.



AS CARTER SAT IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM
THOSE SCENES FLASHED THROUGH HIS
MIND WITH A CLARITY SO SHARP IT
WAS AS THOUGH HE'D BEEN
TRANSPORTED BACK IN TIME TO THAT
MOMENT EIGHT YEARS AGO . . .

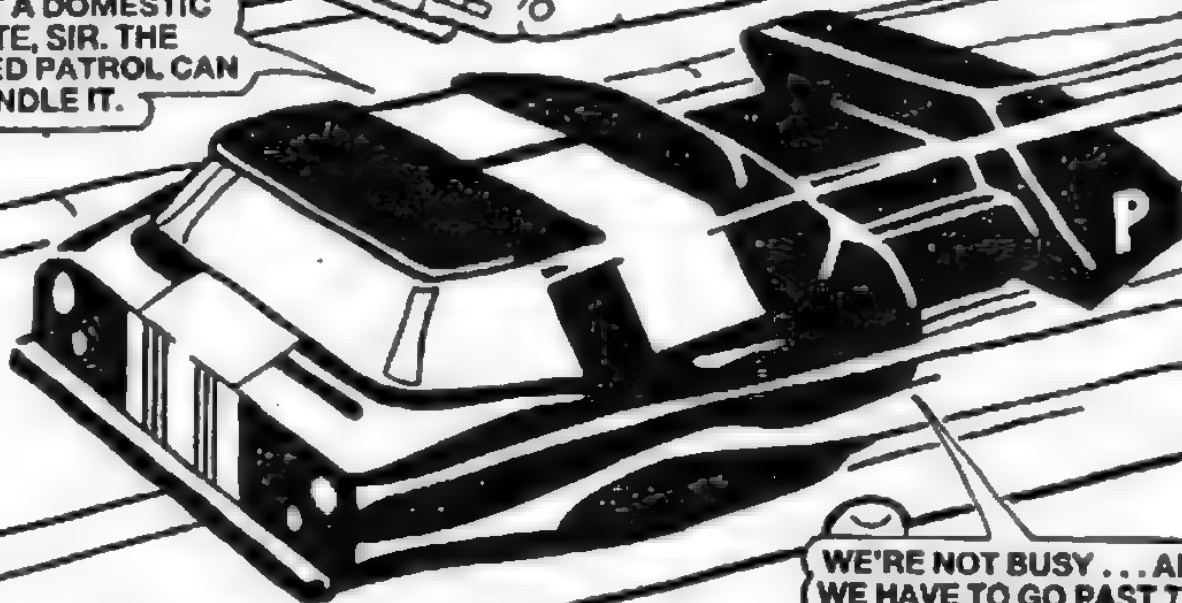


IT WILL BE DONE,
LAURA . . . I PROMISE IT.



THE NEXT DAY, WHILE MAKING A ROUTINE VISIT TO AN INFORMER, THEY RECEIVED AN EMERGENCY CALL OVER THE RADIO ...

IT'S JUST A DOMESTIC DISPUTE, SIR. THE UNIFORMED PATROL CAN HANDLE IT.



WE'RE NOT BUSY ... AND WE HAVE TO GO PAST THE BUILDING ANYWAY.

THEY WERE ARGUING AND WE HEARD HER SCREAM, SO WE CALLED THE POLICE!

STAND BACK, PLEASE.

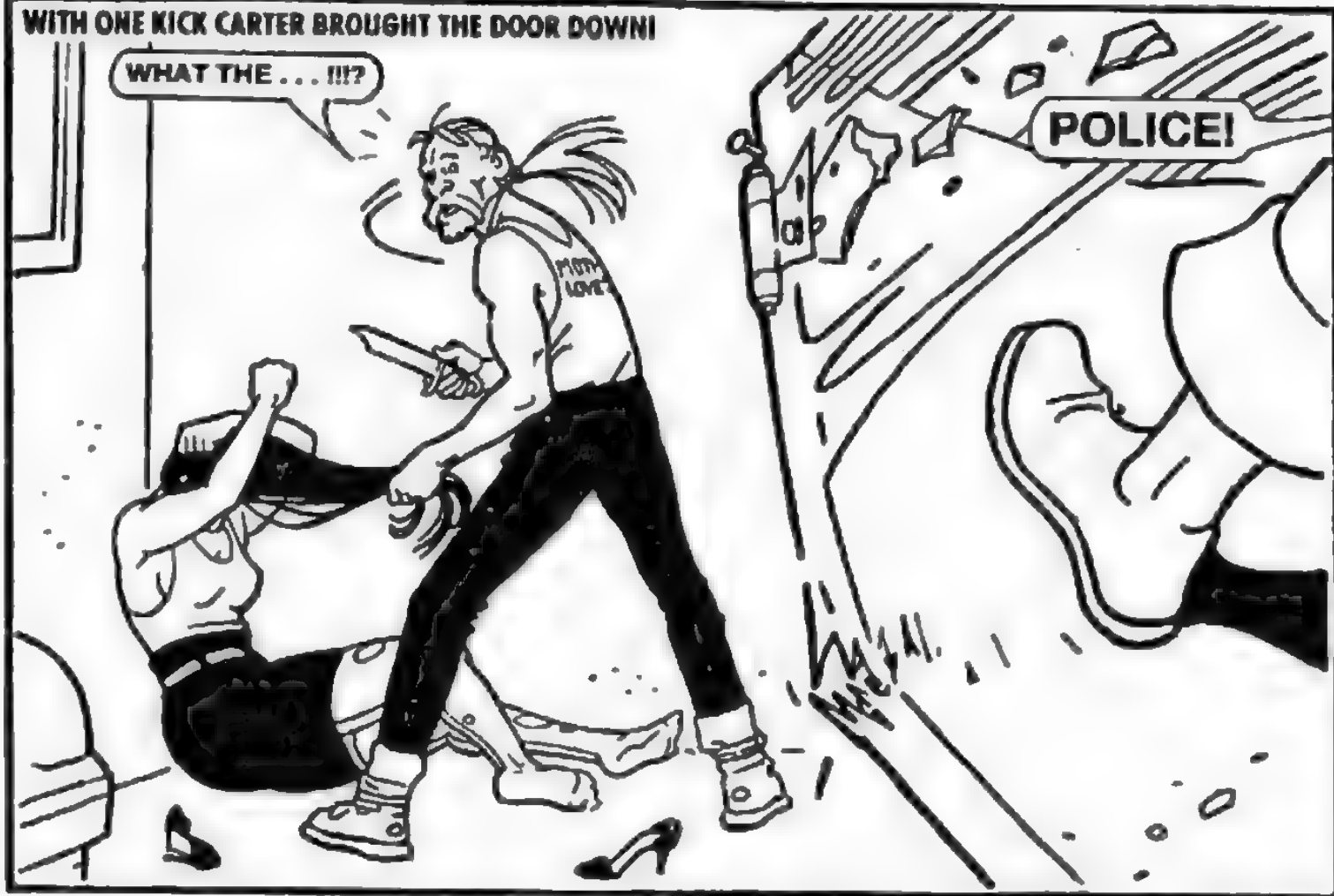
HE WON'T OPEN THE DOOR! I THINK HE'S GONE CRAZY!



WITH ONE KICK CARTER BROUGHT THE DOOR DOWN!

WHAT THE ... !!!?

POLICE!



STAY OUT OF IT, COP! THIS IS BETWEEN ME AND MY WIFE!

ARE YOU THREATENING ME, CRIMO?



THE MAN MADE A BIG MISTAKE IN
WAVING HIS KNIFE AT CARTER!
BEFORE HE KNEW WHAT WAS
HAPPENING CARTER'S HAND FLASHED
OUT AND GRABBED HIM BY THE
WRIST...

AAAGGGGHHH!



CARTER TIGHTENED HIS GRIP,
CRUSHING THE BONES IN THE
MAN'S WRIST!

URRRGGGGHHHH!
STOP IT... PLEASE!

... PLUS A NUMBER OF
OTHER CHARGES. YOU
WILL NOW ACCOMPANY
ME TO THE NEAREST
POLICE PRECINCT.

TAKE IT
EASY, SIR!



I DISLIKE PEOPLE WHO
OFFER VIOLENCE TO
FEMALES.



THAT NIGHT, WHILE
PLAYING CARDS AT THE
APARTMENT OF A FELLOW
OFFICER...

ANOTHER HAND?

DEAL ME OUT, JAKE. I NEED
TO GET SOME FRESH AIR.




THE EPISODE WITH THE WIFE BEATER HAD BEEN PLAYING ON NOLAN'S MIND...

CARTER HAS CHANGED AND IT'S NOT JUST MY IMAGINATION! WE'VE ALL BEEN TEMPTED TO TAKE OUR ANGER OUT ON WIFE BEATERS... THEY'RE AMONGST THE LOWEST SCUM IN THE GALAXY! BUT THAT'S A HUMAN EMOTION AND CARTER IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOVE THAT SORT OF THING.

NOLAN FOUND HIMSELF OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL. PERHAPS A VOICE IN HIS SUBCONSCIOUS TOLD HIM TO TAKE THAT PARTICULAR ROUTE... WHO KNOWS?

HELLO? THERE'S SOMEONE CLIMBING OUT OF THAT WINDOW!



A black and white comic panel showing a police officer in a light-colored uniform shirt. He is holding a handgun with both hands, pointing it towards the left. His mouth is open as if shouting. A speech bubble above him contains the text: "HALT, CRIMO! I'M A POLICE OFFICER AND I'M ARMED! TURN AROUND SLOWLY WITH BOTH HANDS IN THE AIR!". The background is dark with some light streaks.

HALT, CRIMO! I'M A POLICE OFFICER AND I'M ARMED! TURN AROUND SLOWLY WITH BOTH HANDS IN THE AIR!

AS THE FIGURE TURNED ...



A black and white comic panel. On the left, a police officer is shown from the side, pointing a handgun towards a man on the right. A speech bubble from the officer says "CARTER!". The man on the right is wearing a dark suit and a light-colored shirt. He has his hands raised in front of him. A speech bubble from him says "YOU DO NOT NEED THAT WEAPON ... I WILL OFFER NO RESISTANCE.". The background is dark with some light streaks.

CARTER!

YOU DO NOT NEED THAT WEAPON ... I WILL OFFER NO RESISTANCE.



THERE WAS NO TRACE OF EMOTION IN CARTER'S VOICE... IT WAS AS THOUGH HE WERE DESCRIBING A CRIME COMMITTED BY SOMEONE ELSE.

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!

IT WAS LAURA'S WISH... SHE COMMUNICATED IT TO ME BY TELEPATHY, CALL IT WHAT YOU WILL. SHE DID NOT WANT TO LIVE AS A MEDICAL CURIOSITY.

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE FOR HER? A PERSON WITH JUST A BRAIN AND A BODY THAT NO LONGER FUNCTIONS. AND WHAT OF HER BRAIN? ONE THING THE MEDICAL EXPERTS DIDN'T MENTION WAS THAT HER BRAIN WAS ALSO DAMAGED.



CARTER WAS RIGHT — THE POST MORTEM REVEALED NOTHING SUSPICIOUS AND THE DOCTORS ASSUMED THE EXPERIMENT HAD GONE WRONG ...

I GUESS YOU CAN'T KILL SOMEBODY WHO'S ALREADY DEAD, CARTER. I WON'T SAY A THING.

THANKS, NOLAN! DO ME A FAVOUR ... DON'T DIE ON ME, YOU'RE THE ONLY ... ER ... FRIEND I HAVE!

PART OF CARTER HAD DIED WITH LAURA, BUT EVEN CARTER WASN'T SURE WHICH PARTY.

**DON'T
MISS**

**THIS MONTH'S OTHER
ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURE**

STARBLASTER

FANTASY FICTION IN PICTURES No. 275

32p



**SHOOT 'EM
BACK!**

NOW ON SALE

CARTER'S FURY

**Carter the
mandroid
had had
enough!
Years of
crime-
fighting had
taken their
toll and
Carter had
no desire to
go on. But
the Law
Enforcement
Organisation
had invested
too much
money and
time to let
him go. So
they hatched
a bizarre
plot to lure
him back.
And this plot
involved
Laura, the
very reason
he'd
resigned.**

